

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /085 W

-----171330Z 064596 /53

R 170913Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4959

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 0800

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, RP, ME

SUBJECT: MINDANAO CEASEFIRE SUPERVISION TEAMS ARRIVE MANILA

REF: MANILA 636 AND PREVIOUS

1. ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND MNLF CEASEFIRE SUPERVISION TEAMS ARRIVED MANILA ON JANUARY 14 AND WERE SCHEDULED TO DEPART FOR THE SOUTH JANUARY 17. ISLAMIC CONFERENCE TEAM IS HEADED BY CONFERENCE DEP SEC GEN, KASEM ZUHERI (IDENTIFIED BY PRESS AS FORMER MOROCCAN MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND AMBASSADOR TO CHINA) PLUS THREE LIBYANS, THREE SENAGGALESE, TWO SOMALIANS AND A SAUDI. MNLF TEAM OF EIGHT IS HEADED BY FORMER JOLO OPTOMETRIST THAMBAYAPHA MANJOORSA. BOTH TEAMS MET WITH MARCOS JANUARY 15 AND EXCHANGED PRO FORMA STATEMENTS. MARCOS REITERATED DECEMBER 24 CEASEFIRE CALL AND ORDERED ARMED FORCES TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH TRUCE TEAMS AND PROVIDE
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THEM SECURITY. LATER DEFENSE UNDERSECRETARY BARBERO WARNED ALL PARTIES TO TRUCE SUPERVISION NOT TO HEED "RUMORMONGERS" WHO WANT TO UNDERMINE SETTLEMENT.

2. ACCORDING PRESS, ISLAMIC CONFERENCE/MNLF GROUP WOULD FLY TO ZAMBOANGA JANUARY 17. FROM THERE, MNLF WILL CONTACT LOCAL REBEL CADRES TO "OFFICIALLY" INFORM

THEM OF CEASEFIRE AND TO SELECT TWO-MAN TEAMS TO REPRESENT REBELS ON SUPERVISORY COMMITTEES IN EACH OF THIRTEEN PROVINCES AFFECTED. (GOP WILL ALSO SUPPLY TWO REPS TO EACH COMMITTEE.) MANJOORSA WILL ALSO SELECT HIS DEPUTY. ROLE OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE GROUP NOT YET SPELLED OUT.

3. REPORTS FROM FIELD CONTINUED TO INDICATE THAT CEASEFIRE NOT YET FULLY HOLDING (IF AT ALL) AND THAT EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT. FOR EXAMPLE, COTABATO PROVINCES ARE IN MORE THAN USUALLY SIDTURBED STATE AS RESULT OF DECEMBER 23-5 MASSACRE AT AMAS (NORTH COTABATO) IN WHICH APPROXIMATELY 30 MUSLIMS (ONE SOURCE SAYS 60) WERE MASSACRED APPARENTLY BY VENGEANCE-SEEKING CONSTABULARY MEN. EMBASSY READINGS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES INDICATE THAT MILITARY FIELD COMMANDERS ARE ANGERED AT CEASEFIRE AND DOUBTFUL OF THEIR ABILITY TO ENFORCE IT, CHRISTIAN SETTLERS ARE EVEN MORE DISTURBED, AND MUSLIM FACTIONS (INCLUDING BOTH ARMED RETURNEES AND ACTIVE REBELS) MAY BE PREPARING TO CONSOLIDATE HOLD ON AREAS WHICH THEY CONTROL PRIOR TO SETTLEMENT. THUS AT LEAST FOR SHORT RUN, ATTEMPT TO IMPLEMENT PARTIAL SETTLEMENT MAY EXACERBATE VIOLENCE.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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